

## Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 00526 231221Z

11

ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 /026 W

----- 008125

P R 231130Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 9947

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY BEIRUT

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMCONSUL DHAHRAN

AMEMBASSY DAMASCUS

AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

S E C R E T JIDDA 0526

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, XF/ SA, EG, JO, SY, IS

SUBJECT: KING FAISAL'S OPTIMISM ON CHANCES FOR PEACE

1. AHMED ZAKI YAMANI, WHO HAD JUST COME FROM LONG MEETING WITH KING FAISAL, TOLD ME LAST NIGHT (1900 GMT JANUARY 22) THAT HE HAD RARELY SEEN KING IN SUCH GOOD SPIRITS. FAISAL CONSIDERED HIS TRIPS TO DAMASCUS, AMMAN AND CAIRO AS TOTALLY SUCCESSFUL AND HE NOW CONFIDENT THAT MIDDLE EAST PEACE IS POSSIBLE AND WILL BE QUICKLY ACHIEVED.

2. KING SAID ARABS ARE UNITED AS NEVER BEFORE, AND NEXT STEP, TO BE TAKEN VERY SOON, WILL BE SUBSTANTIAL ISRAELI WITHDRAWALS ON BOTH EGYPTIAN AND SYRIAN FROMTS. KING DID NOT SAY, BUT YAMANI ASSUMED, THAT U.S. HAD GIVEN ASAD AND SADAT ASSURANCES THAT ISRAEL HAD ALREADY AGREED TO SUCH WITHDRAWALS. OTHERWISE, HE SAID, "KING WOULD NOT BE SO PLEASED".

3. COMMENT: WE DO NOT YET KNOW EXACTLY WHAT EITHER PRESIDENT TOLD KING. (I EXPECT TO SEE FAHD SOON AND BELIEVE HE WILL TELL ME.) IF YAMANI'S VERSION OF KING'S VIEWS

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PAGE 02 JIDDA 00526 231221Z

AND MOOD IS CORRECT, WE HOPE IT IS BASED ON FACTS AND

NOT ON ARAB STATES' INTERPRETATIONS OF SIGNS OR OMENS.  
IF FAISAL (AND THE OTHER ARABS) ARE WRONG, FAISAL'S  
REACTION WILL BE MIGHTY SOUR.  
AKINS

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** Z  
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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** PERSONAL OPINION, PEACE PLANS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 23 JAN 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
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